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DIGEO, INC C/O STOEL RIVES LLP 201 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SUITE 1100 ONE UTAH CENTER SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84111			CHANG, SHIRLEY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2614	

DATE MAILED: 09/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/933,683

Applicant(s)

BUTLER ET AL.

Examiner

Shirley Chang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-49 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-49 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 August 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/31/02</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

1. Claim 35-43 recites the limitation "the computer program product" in the preambles. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. For the rest of the office action, claim 35-43 will be regarded as dependents of claim 33.

Furthermore, regarding claims 35-43:

"computer program product of claim 22" will be regarded as "computer program product of claim 34."

"computer program product of claim 23" will be regarded as "computer program product of claim 35."

"computer program product of claim 26" will be regarded as "computer program product of claim 38."

"computer program product of claim 28" will be regarded as "computer program product of claim 40."

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

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2. Claims 44 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 44 and 45 call for a "medium for holding the code." However, they fail to prove tangible application and pre/post computer activities.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-9, 15-21, 32, 44, and 46- 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated over Alten (2005/0055640).

As to claim 1, Alten discloses:

A system (shown in fig. 1):

a television (TV 15);

a presence sensitive device (remote control unit 18);

wherein said television has a display screen (display 17);

wherein said presence sensitive device is operatively disposed in relation to said display screen; and wherein said presence sensitive device is operative to determine a selection of at least one of a plurality of items displayed on said display screen based upon sensing a presence. ("The advertisement may provide information to enable the user to immediately purchase an offered item. The user may operate the remote control unit 18 to provide a signal to the system 12 that communicates with a service provider indicating the user's selection. For example, in one embodiment of the present invention, the display 20 may be a touch screen display. When the user touches the screen proximate to the displayed data 22, the corresponding product may be purchased. Alternatively, a display screen may be displayed which allows the user to enter more information about the user and the requested item. In addition, the remote control unit 18 may include a plurality of control buttons 24 to allow the user to implement selections for controlling the display of video information on the screens 20 and 17" [0017]);

As to claim 2, Alten discloses:

an interface that receives interactive programming content (set-top 12 receives content from elements 112a, 112b, 122c, all of fig. 1);

wherein said interactive programming content is displayed on said display screen (display 17);

wherein input is received from said presence sensitive device; wherein said input is used to interact with said interactive programming content. (remote control 18, wherein the input is sent to STB 12);

As to claim 3, Alten discloses:

wherein said television is communicatively coupled with at least one of a plurality of content providers (TV 15 is connected to elements 112a, 112b, 122c).

As to claim 4, Alten discloses:

wherein said at least one of a plurality of content providers includes at least one of: an Internet web site; a cable television content provider ; and a satellite television content provider (element 112b, fig. 1).

As to claim 5, Alten discloses:

wherein said interactive programming content comprises at least one of: an electronic program guide; an electronic program guide for children; an on-screen control for television (remote control 18); an on-screen control for a displayed cursor; an on-screen control for VCR; an interactive game; interactive educational instruction; interactive foreign language instruction; and interactive decision making for creating a story.

As to claim 6, Alten discloses:

wherein said presence sensitive device provides an input which emulates a mouse ("In addition, the remote control unit 18 may include a plurality of control buttons 24 to allow the user to implement selections" [0017]; since a mouse allows a user to make selections, making selections through the remote control is thereby an emulation of a mouse).

As to claim 7, Alten discloses:

wherein said input which emulates a mouse enables children to use the web (“The incoming video information may include television content and enhancement data. The enhancement data may include graphics such as web pages, multimedia information or other digital files, presentation layouts, and synchronization information” [18]; the remote control is usable by children to access websites).

As to claim 8, Alten discloses:

a pointing device (remote control 18 is a pointing device);

wherein said pointing device provides an interface for a physically impaired person (a user whose leg is amputated is physically impaired, and can use remote control 18).

As to claim 9, Alten discloses:

wherein said presence sensitive device provides an alternate control set for remote control (‘a plurality of control buttons 24’ [0017]).

wherein said input is received from a user.

As to claim 15, Alten discloses:

wherein said presence sensitive device includes at least one of:

a touch screen (“the display 20 may be a touch screen display” [0017]); a capacitive touch screen; a surface acoustic wave (SAW) touch screen; a wire resistive touch screen; and a stylus based selection indication mechanism.

As to claim 16, Alten discloses:

wherein said presence sensitive device provides at least one of:

control of cursor movement; control of a selection rectangle; control of a navigational aid; and control of a selection aid ("In addition, the remote control unit 18 may include a plurality of control buttons 24 to allow the user to implement selections" [0017]).

As to claim 17, Alten discloses:

wherein a user communicates with said television via said presence sensitive device (user uses remote control 18 to communicate with RV 15).

As to claim 18, Alten discloses:

a remote control device (remote control 18);

wherein said remote control device includes a second display screen (display 20);

wherein at least one of a plurality of commands are exchanged between said remote control device and said television ("The controller 26 may also control the keypad 24 for allowing user input commands" [0036]);

wherein said remote control device includes a second presence sensitive device; wherein said second presence sensitive device is operatively disposed in relation to said second display screen (the touch pad is a presence sensitive device, as discussed in claim 15);

As to claim 19, Alten discloses:

a device for playing interactive programming content on the television (STB 12).

As to claim 20, Alten discloses:

wherein said device for playing interactive programming content includes at least one of: a VCR; a DVD player; a CD player; a PVR; a Nintendo; a Playstation; a set top box (STB 12); and a head end computer.

As to claim 21, Alten discloses:

wherein said interactive programming content includes at least one of: an electronic program guide ("The display 20 may provide information about available video as indicated at 23 or about the video actually being viewed as two examples. In addition, enhancement data may be displayed on the display 20 as indicated at 22. In the illustrated case, the data 22 is an advertisement" [0016]); an electronic program guide for children; interactive games; a children's story book; an interactive story book, in which a story is created based upon decisions received from a user; an educational material; and foreign language instruction material.

As to claim 32, Alten discloses:

receiving an input comprising a touch; using said input in commerce (fig. 1, element 22).

As to claim 44,

Since the system is directed toward a computer system, it entails the usage of a "computer based product" which implements the method of claim 32.

As to claim 46, Alten discloses:

An apparatus (remote control 18):

one or more handles (remote control includes a handle in order to allow the remote control to be picked up or utilized);

a screen display (display 20);
a touch sensitive input device ("the display 20 may be a touch screen display" [0017]);
a means for communicating with a set top device (as shown in fig. 1);
wherein said touch sensitive device is disposed proximately to said screen display in order to allow interaction with a program content being displayed via touch (as shown in fig. 1).

As to claim 47, Alten discloses:
wherein said communicating is wireless ("The remote control unit 18 may be coupled to the system 12 using a wired or wireless connection" [0015]).

As to claim 48, Alten discloses:
Wherein said screen displays an image that duplicates an image displayed on a television ("The incoming video information may include television content" [0018], thereby effectively 'duplicating' a television image at a point in time).

As to claim 49, Alten discloses:
wherein said touch sensitive input device emulates mouse functions ("In addition, the remote control unit 18 may include a plurality of control buttons 24 to allow the user to implement selections" [0017]; since a mouse allows a user to make selections, making selections through the remote control is thereby an emulation of a mouse).

4. Claims 33 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated over Chang (5543851).

As to claim 33,

Chang discloses; receiving an input comprising a touch; showing a meaning of a word corresponding to a location of said touch ('user may select words for definition or translation by moving a cursor 712 and selecting text' [6, 18-47]; in order to 'select words,' the user must 'touch' an input device).

As to claim 45,

The limitations are included and met as discussed in claim 33, because the method is implemented via a computer program product comprising a computer readable medium for holding code for implementing the method.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was

not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

5. Claims 22-25, and 34-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over Bulman et al. (2003/0051255) in view of Hornbuckle (5388211).

As to claim 22,

Bulman et al. discloses: a method, comprising: providing electronic information in an interactive format via a television system; ("superimposed images, so generated, are supplied to a digital-to-analog converter which converts the image to a single frame in NTSC format" [1-5]), displaying text and/or illustration from said electronic information ("FIG. 7 depicts an image frame in which the head of a human subject has been superimposed upon the body shown in FIG. 6" [8, 41-44]); and providing a narration of said text substantially contemporaneously with displaying said text ("For example, a close-captioned signal may be included with the audio text" [13, 17-21]; fig. 8).

However, Bulman does not disclose, "receiving a payment for accessing said electronic information; wherein said payment comprises a rental charge for accessing said electronic information." However, Hornbuckle teaches the usage of rental software ([5, 28-40]). Accordingly, it would have been clearly obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the Bulman reference to utilize and charge fees associated with rental software for the purpose of allowing 'rental software to be run whenever and as often as the user desires' [5, 28-40], and to further allow the user to take advantage of the software based functionality of Bulman without having to purchase a copy.

As to claim 23, Bulman et al. discloses:

wherein said electronic information comprises at least one of a plurality of fields; wherein said at least one of a plurality of fields is disposed to receive values for identifying characteristics about a viewer ("Personal names, e.g., "JASON", with a proper intonation, are inserted in this audio data stream on the fly. If the name is to be added at the end of a sentence, digital representations thereof are added "flush left", i.e., with a variable length sound gap between the end of the sentence and the beginning of the next sentence; if it is to be inserted at the beginning of a sentence, the digital representations are added "flush right", i.e., with a variable length gap before the name, so that the sentence will sound "natural" in reproduction. The name may also be embedded in the sentence, with variable length gaps at pauses within or at the beginning and/or end of the sentence" [11, 38-52]).

As to claim 24, Bulman et al. discloses:

wherein said method further comprises: populating at least one of said plurality of fields with a name of a child viewing the electronic information being displayed (met as discussed in claim 23).

As to claim 25, Bulman et al. discloses:

taking a picture of a child viewing the electronic information being displayed ("FIG. 2 illustrates how the head of a human subject can be scanned by an electronic scanner to form stored images. In this case, a video camera 14 is arranged to view the head 16 of the human subject. This human subject stands on a platform 18 which is rotated about a vertical axis 20. In this way, a plurality of video frames are obtained,

each containing the image of the head 16 in a different angular position. These video flames are stored on a video cassette recorder (VCR) 24. The stored video flames may be thereafter digitized, in an analog-to-digital converter, to provide digital representations of each frame" [9, 17-27]);

inserting said picture into a story line within said electronic information being displayed ("The presentation ("story") is now recorded from the hard drive of the PC workstation to a videotape (or other possible media in the future). The story consists of a sequence of video and audio elements (images, voice messages, music) that are played in a predetermined order to create the story. In that sequence, the background images with the superimposed heads will appear in their predetermined places to create a personalized videotape." [12, 30-39]).

As to claim 34,

Since the method of 22 is directed toward a computer system, the limitations of claim 34 are met as discussed in claim 22.

As to claims 35-37,

Since the system is a computer-based system, the limitations are met as discussed in claims 23-25, respectively.

6. Claims 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alten (2005/0055640) in view of Bulman et al. (2003/0051255).

As to claim 10,

Although Alten does not specifically disclose "wherein said television provides narration for said interactive programming content," Bulman teaches, "the voice file for

narrative ("ABCV") 78" [12, 51-59]; "a close-captioned signal may be included with the audio text" [13, 17-21]; "The presentation ("story") is now recorded from the hard drive of the PC workstation to a videotape (or other possible media in the future). The story consists of a sequence of video and audio elements (images, voice messages, music) that are played in a predetermined order to create the story. In that sequence, the background images with the superimposed heads will appear in their predetermined places to create a personalized videotape. (Block 70)". Accordingly, it would have been clearly obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the Alten reference to use narration so as to allow a 'possible form of video and audio personalization' [11, 55-57].

As to claim 11, Bulman discloses:

wherein said narration comprises text to speech conversion of a book ("The presentation ("story") is now recorded from the hard drive of the PC workstation to a videotape (or other possible media in the future). The story consists of a sequence of video and audio elements (images, voice messages, music) that are played in a predetermined order to create the story. In that sequence, the background images with the superimposed heads will appear in their predetermined places to create a personalized videotape. (Block 70)" [12, 30-40]; "FIG. 11 illustrates how the personalized presentation is created (Block 70) from the files of digital representations containing the foreground images ("Faces") 72, the background images ("ABC") 74, the voice file for "Names" ("N") 76, the voice file for narrative ("ABCV") 78 and the music file ("ABCM") 80" [12, 50-60]).

As to claim 12, Bulman discloses:

Wherein said television controls tone and/or accent of narration according to an input ("the name of a human subject, e.g., "JASON", is spoken into the microphone 52 with three different intonations: declaratory, exclamatory and interrogatory" [11, 24-31])

As to claim 13, Bulman discloses:

wherein said television controls speed of narration according to an input ("The photo album, or slideshow, will allow a consumer to indicate which photos from their online archives they want to feature in an online presentation. The consumer then selects, for example: the order in which selected images appear on-screen; how long selected images appear onscreen; whether or not to include narration with the images; what narration accompanies each image" [0105]; since the narration is related to the images, the time the image appear onscreen affects how long or the speed of the narration is; "The name may also be embedded in the sentence, with variable length gaps at pauses within or at the beginning and/or end of the sentence" [11, 38-52]).

As to claim 14, Bulman discloses:

Wherein the input is received from a user (met as discussed in claim 13).

7. Claims 26, 27, 38, and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bulman et al. (2003/0051255), in view of Hornbuckle (5388211), in further view of Safadi et al. (2001/0051037), and in further view of Best (4305131).

As to claim 26,

Although Bulman does not specifically disclose: "presenting a problem to be solved in an interactive program content delivered by a Personal Video Recorder (PVR);

pausing said interactive program content to go into interactive mode; determining an answer to said problem presented; receiving an input comprising a touch of a selected answer," Safadi teaches: "The basic concept of the VCR has recently been extended to digital compression devices that provide even more features for managing the reception and recording of audiovisual programming. These products have a number of names such as personal television products, personal versatile recorders, video recording computers, personal television servers, and the like, referred to hereinafter as "personal versatile recorders" (PVR)" [0008]. Therefore, it would have been clearly obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Bulman to utilize a PVR, so as to extend the basic concept of the VCR to provide even more features for managing the reception and recording of audiovisual programming [0008].

Furthermore, although the combination of Bulman and Safadi do not specifically disclose "presenting a problem to be solved in an interactive program content delivered by a Personal Video Recorder (PVR); pausing said interactive program content to go into interactive mode; determining an answer to said problem presented; receiving an input comprising a touch of a selected answer," Best teaches:

presenting a problem to be solved in an interactive program content delivered by a Personal Video Recorder (PVR) ([9, 58-68]; "fig. 10", wherein the 'problem' is "We're outnumbered! Do we fight or run?");

pausing said interactive program content to go into interactive mode ("Such an actor, shown on the screen in FIG. 10 and called a "helper" in FIG. 11 block 461, is the player's alter ego in the movie and keeps the player(s) informed on what is happening,

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what problems require a decision, and what the options are” [9, 58-68] to [10, 1-6]; since a decision is “required,” the procedure will not proceed without a decision, and hence the program is effectively ‘paused.’);

determining an answer to said problem presented (fig. 10, wherein user chooses ‘run’);

receiving an input comprising a touch of a selected answer (fig. 10, user uses the hand held device to input answer which will be received by the system, shown in fig. 13).

Therefore, it would have been clearly obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Bulman and Safadi to include the claimed limitations, as taught by Best, so as to “increase the realism of the illusion that the player is a personal participant” [11, 17-49].

As to claim 27, Best teaches:

embedding into a broadcast program content at least one of a plurality of triggers to cause a PVR to pause program (the branch points of fig. 11 are effectively ‘triggers’, which are part of the television movie, or “broadcast program”);

allowing a viewer to interact with said program at own pace (fig. 11 and as discussed in claim 26, since the viewer decides which decisions to choose at his own pace);

continuing to a subsequent part of said program (fig. 11 and as discussed in claim 26).

As to claims 38 and 39,

The limitations are met as discussed in claims 26 and 27, respectively.

8. Claims 28-31 and 40-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bulman et al. (2003/0051255) in view of Hornbuckle (5388211), in further view of Lee (2001/0037510).

As to claim 28,

Although Bulman et al. does not specifically disclose “receiving at least one of a plurality of foreign language audio programs via an IP channel; receiving from a viewer a selection of a language of choice; and receiving both an audio program and said text in said language of choice,” Lee teaches: receiving at least one of a plurality of foreign language audio programs via an IP channel ([0037], “character information to be translated can comprise audio information synchronized with itself” [0038], S36, fig. 3A); receiving from a viewer a selection of a language of choice (S31, fig. 3A); receiving both an audio program and said text in said language of choice ([0039], [0039], and [0036]). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Bulman et al. with Lee with the claimed limitations, so as to “satisfy a desire of a user, and improve a convenience of a user” [0052].

As to claim 29, Lee discloses:

selecting audio and text overlays based upon said selection of a language of choice (S31, fig. 3A;). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Bulman et al. with Lee with the

claimed limitations, so as to "satisfy a desire of a user, and improve a convenience of a user" [0052].

As to claim 30, Lee discloses:

tuning said television by receiving a selection made from at least one of a plurality of on-screen choices (the television tunes the channel selected from the EPG [0011]). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Bulman et al. with Lee with the claimed limitations, so as to "satisfy a desire of a user, and improve a convenience of a user" [0052].

As to claim 31, Lee discloses:

selecting text in an on-screen overlay based upon said selection of a language of choice (met as discussed in claim 28).

As to claims 40-43,

The limitations are met as discussed in claims 28-31, respectively.

Conclusion

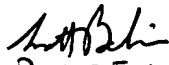
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shirley Chang whose telephone number is (571) 272-8546. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached on (571) 272-7353. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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